

Remarks


Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.116(b)(1) as complying with matters of form set forth in the final Office Action. Upon entrance of this amendment, claims 1, 2, 6-9, 11-14, 17, 19, 22-24 & 27 will remain pending.

In the final Office Action dated May 31, 2006, claims 3, 5, 9, 11, 16, 17, 21 26 & 27 were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Responsive to this indication, the subject matter of claims 3, 5, 16, 21 & 26 has been rewritten into the respective independent claims (i.e., claims 1, 13 18 & 23). Thus, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

This paper is filed to attain issuance of certain allowable subject matter, and is submitted without prejudice to the possible filing of a continuation application for any remaining subject matter of the application.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss this case with Applicants' attorney, please contact Applicants' attorney at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,


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